

SUFFOLK-NANSEMOND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P. O. Box 1255

Suffolk, Virginia 23434

Vol. 2 No. 3

May 1969

May Meeting The May meeting of the Suffolk-Nansemond Historical Society will be held Tuesday, May 27, 1969 in the Municipal Court Room of the Municipal Building, at 8:00 P. M. The Civil War Committee will be in charge of the program. Please plan to attend and support your Society.

Thanks The Society would like to thank Richard Bruckse and Raymond McClenney, AST, National Guard Armory. They have been printing the news letter for us for the last several months. We are greatful for their help.

Old Homes and Sites The Old Homes and Sites Committee will meet Tuesday, June 2, 1969, at 7:30 P. M. at the Chamber of Commerce. This will be an important meeting. The Committee will have the July meeting and must make plans now for this meeting.

Preservation Funds Twenty-five states and Puerto Rico will receive their first grants of federal matching funds under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. The Department of the Interior's National Park Service announced that the funds will be used to assist the states in historic site preservation. In accordance with a decision made last year by then Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall, a total of \$82,500 is to be used by participating states in making surveys and identifying properties of historical, archaeological, and architectural significance for the National Register of Historic Places maintained by the National Park Service. Under this grant, the state of Virginia will receive \$6,164.61.

From Secretary Romney A city without a sence of its past can have little hope of planning for its future. For cities, like people, the heritage of the past can provide the identify and the place around which new commitments are made. Not everything of historic or architectual significance can be saved. Tough decisions must be made to weigh costs against the benefits of long-term plans. The buildings that can be saved will be those that can have a meaningful presence in the community. As a result of recent legislation, a full range of planning and financial tools is now available to cities and local governments to plan and carry out preservation programs.

George Romney, Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development - April 17, 1969

Revolutionary War Much activity was shown by Nansemond County during the Revolutionary War. At the burning of Norfolk the people of Suffolk and Nansemond provided food and shelter for the destitute sufferers. Suffolk became an army depot, and a detachment of troops was constantly stationed in the town. The town was to suffer the same humiliation as Norfolk and was burned by General Mathews on May 13, 1779. Cornwallis crossed the county on his way to Yorktown at which time the militia of Nansemond County was called into service. The people of Suffolk and Nansemond County furnished 800 soldiers for the Revolutionary War.

Veterans The Society is trying to compile a list of Revolutionary War veterans from Suffolk and Nansemond County. If you have any such records, or know anyone who does, please share them with the Society. We need the help of everyone.

Jan. 5, 1900 An anti-spitting ordinance was adopted as follows:

Be it ordaned, that, it shall not be lawful for any person to spit upon the sidewalks or the floors of public buildings within the corporate limits of the town, or the floors of public conveyances used in the town. Any violation of this ordinance shall be punished by a fine, within the discretion of the mayor, of not more than \$5.

On motion, section 8 of chapter 17 of the town ordinances was amended so as to change the names of several down-town streets, as follows: First street to be called Milner, Second Street to be Mahan and Western Avenue to be Prentis Street, said names were chosen in honor of distinguished citizens of Suffolk in olden times.

Edited by H. R. Gray, Jr.

Assisted by Marion J. Watson